

KOOS OF COURSE!

October 2003

Design Inspiration

A pattern designed by Koos van den Akker for Vogue was the starting point for this ensemble. Additional elements, inspired by the book “Koos: Couture and Collage” were used to augment the motifs already in the pattern. Several other leaf motifs and sliced fabric sections were added to the back and the sleeves. The final version is an homage to my favorite “Koos” design ideas.

Fabrics

Jacket: wool boucle, wool/polyester pinstripe, reverses to moleskin.

Pants: wool/polyester pinstripe.

Embellishments

Jacket: ultrasuede and moleskin appliques, rayon and tweed fabrics for sliced panels, assorted yarns for couching.

Patterns

Jacket: Vogue 2757.

Pants: McCalls 2080.

Special Sewing Techniques

The jacket has several sections of sliced-fabric appliques. The appliques are stitched onto the garment along the bias grain of the applique fabric and then slashed between the rows of machine stitching. The leaf appliques on the jacket are secured with fusible web, zig-zagged and then finished with decorative couched yarns. Each reversible garment section is machine quilted and joined with flat-felled seams or bound (strap) seams. The latter are finished by hand to make sure that the finish looks good on both sides of the garment. Ingenious welt pockets reverse to patch pockets. A top-stitched binding finishes the garment edges. The pants are made from one of the accent fabrics used for the jacket.

Exhibitions and Awards

1st place, Vest, Jacket or Coat, Pacific International Quilt Festival XII, October 2003.

Outstanding Jacket or Vest, Road 2 California, January 2004.

Finalist, Indiana Heritage Quilt Show, February 2004.

Honorable Mention, Quilt America, June 2004.

Finalist, International Quilt Festival Houston, November 2004.